

REMARKS

Claims 1-32 are pending. Claims 21-28 stand withdrawn from consideration. Claims 1-20 stand allowed. Claims 29-32 stand rejected. By this Amendment, claims 33-36 are cancelled, claim 21 is amended to be dependent on claim 1, and claim 26 is amended to be dependent on claim 25. Consideration of dependent claims 21-28 (as amended) is respectfully solicited.

1. The Office Action objects to the drawings for not showing the radiation generator, the scintillator, the sensor and the display. This objection is respectfully traversed, in part, and obviated, in part.

The Patent Office is invited to consider scintillator 110 as depicted in FIG. 1 and described in the specification (e.g., page 5, lines 1 and 2). The Patent Office is further invited to consider sensor 120 as depicted in FIG. 1 and described in the specification (e.g., page 5, lines 13-16).

The Examiner is respectfully requested to review and approve corrections to the drawings by the addition of FIG. 4 attached hereto. FIG. 4 does not add new matter since it merely conforms the drawings to the original specification. For example, imager 100 in FIG. 4 is illustrated in FIG. 1 and fully described in the original specification. The depiction of radiation source 1010, the imaged object 1020, and line 1030 between imager 100 and radiation source 1010 is described in the original specification (e.g., page 9, line 27 through page 10, line 2). The depiction of display 1040 is described in the original specification (e.g., page 3, lines 15-16).

The Applicant notes, with thanks, that the Office Action considers the informal drawings on file acceptable for examination purposes. Upon an indication that the application is allow, the Applicant will prepare and file drawings in formal condition.

The specification paragraph spanning from page 9, line 27 thorough page 10, line 2 has been amended to make numerical reference to these aspects of FIG. 4. As a convenience for readers of the specification, the original disclosure on page 3, lines 15-16 is incorporated into the specification paragraph spanning from page 9, line 27 thorough page 10, line 2. In addition,

the Brief Description Of The Drawings in the specification has been amended to include reference to FIG. 4.

2. The Office Action rejects claims 29-32 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hamamoto et al. (USPN 6,479,827) and Harootian (USPN 5,303,373). For at least the following reasons, withdrawal of the rejections of claims 29-32 is respectfully solicited.

Hamamoto et al. does not disclose, teach or suggest an apparatus that includes a fiber optic bundle that has first and second ends where the apparatus further includes:

a time delay and integrate sensor disposed in confronting relation
with the second end

as specified in claim 29, and therefore contained in claims 30-32 dependent on claim 29. Hamamoto et al. discloses only that a solid state image sensing device 1 is used in the apparatus of Hamamoto et al. Hamamoto et al. does not describe any teaching or suggestion that would motivate a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the Hamamoto et al. apparatus to use a time delay and integrate sensor.

Similarly, Harootian does not disclose, teach or suggest an apparatus that includes a fiber optic bundle that has first and second ends where the apparatus further includes:


a time delay and integrate sensor disposed in confronting relation
with the second end

as specified in claim 29, and therefore contained in claims 30-32 dependent on claim 29. In fact, Harootian does not disclose a sensor of any type. Harootian does not describe any teaching or suggestion that would motivate a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the Harootian apparatus to use a time delay and integrate sensor.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Prompt reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited. Should the examiner believe that any further action is necessary to place the application in condition for allowance, the examiner is invited to contact the under signed at the telephone number listed below.

It is believed that no additional fees are due in connection with the filing of this paper and concurrently filed papers, if any. It is noted that the Patent and Trademark Office was closed Thursday and Friday, September 18 and 19 of 2003 due to weather, and that Monday, September 22, 2003 is the next business day on which the Patent and Trademark Office is open. However, should a fee be due (or an overpayment be made), the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee (or credit any overpayment) associated with this filing to Deposit Account No. 04-1425.

Respectfully submitted,
DORSEY & WHITNEY LLP



by Daniel E. Fisher
Registration No. 34,162
Telephone No. (202) 442-3000

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Attachment: Additional Drawing Sheet (FIG. 4)

DORSEY & WHITNEY LLP
Suite 400 South
1001 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004
Telephone: 202-442-3000
Facsimile: 202-442-3199